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Foreign Crops and MARKETS

VOLUME 51 NUMBER 15

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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LATE NEWS

The number of bred sows in Denmark in mid-July this year showed an increase over the corresponding date a year earlier. On August 25, 1945, the 6 weeks' hog census again showed an increase over a year earlier in the number of bred sows. This trend in bred sows would indicate some increase in hog numbers in future months, but total numbers in August remain at the low levels of the past several months.

The Danish crop outlook is good, though a little below normal, and domestic feed supplies together with some import prospects, are more encouraging for hog production than in 1944 and early 1945. The number of young pigs and slaughter hogs on August 25, 1945, are 26 percent smaller than a year earlier and 46 percent less than the 1936-1940 average for August. In the case of suckling pigs, numbers this year were 27 percent less than a year earlier and 59 percent less than the prewar average. (See table on Danish hog numbers, page 211.)

The 1945 Peruvian rice production estimate is revised upward from 6.3 million bushels (183 million pounds milled) to 6.4 million bushels (187 million pounds), with a total consumption estimate of approximately 195 million pounds. Purchases of Chilean rice were recently reported at 13 million pounds.

The Nigerian peanut crop for 1945-46 is estimated at 250,000 to 300,000 tons compared with about 273,000 tons in 1943-44 and the prewar average of 200,000 tons. The Government fears that it will be able to move no more than about one-half of the crop to ports by the end of April 1946 because of the critical condition of rail stock and the shortage of tires and gasoline.

Danish crop conditions as of September 19, expressed in percentages of normal, with corresponding percentages for last year shown in parentheses, were announced as follows: Potatoes, 88 (83); mangels, 94 (84); fodder sugar beets, 95 (84); swedes, 95 (87); turnips, 95 (88); carrots, 94 (83); sugar beets for feed, 95 (84); sugar beets for sugar, 98 (87); lucerne, 100 (92); and pastures, 101 (81).

Prospects for Brazil's 1946 coffee crop were greatly improved by abundant and general rains throughout Sao Paulo, Parana, and Western Minas Geraes in mid-September. The State of Sao Paulo is now expected to produce at least 14 million bags next year, compared with 6 million bags for the recent harvest.

Egyptian Government support buying of the 1945-46 cotton crop at officially fixed prices began on October 1.

1945-Crop situation in Peru is as follows: Cotton, 71,000 short tons, or 7,000 tons less than last year; sugar, 450,000 to 456,000 tons; 850,000 bags of 100 kilos each, with a total consumption estimate of 888,000 bags. The wheat crop outlook is for normal yields. The sheep-wool output is expected to total 8,360 short tons and that of alpaca and llama hair, 3,740 tons.

WORLD CORN CROP SLIGHTLY REDUCED

The 1945-46 world production of corn is estimated to be about 5,275 million bushels, a decline of about 2 percent from last year, but 11 percent larger than the 1935-1939 average. North America, Europe, and Asia show decreases, while the Southern Hemisphere is expected to have a larger harvest than a year ago. Requirements of importing countries, both for food and feed are large, but export supplies from Northern Hemisphere countries are limited, and the prospective larger Southern Hemisphere harvests will be too late to provide surpluses for use in the current season ending June 1946.

From the standpoint of production the United States crop in recent years has not only outranked any other producer, but it has exceeded the estimated outturn of all other countries combined, amounting to nearly 60 percent of the world total. Because of the large number of livestock to be fed, however, only limited quantities have been available for export. Some other countries with much smaller crops have larger exports. Acreage in the United States is less than half of the estimated world total, emphasizing the lower level of yields in most other countries. The indicated decline in production from last year in the United States is largely the result of a 5-percent-smaller acreage, since the September estimate of yields was virtually the same as in 1944.

A severe drought has reduced prospects for the main corn crops in Mexico, Cuba, and parts of Central America. The prospective crops in Mexico and Cuba are smaller than estimated requirements, and in view of the importance of corn for food, imports probably will be necessary. In most seasons production is about equal to domestic needs.

In Europe, the four Danube Basin countries, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Rumania, and Bulgaria, usually produce nearly 75 percent of the continental total. Estimated production of corn in all four countries is much smaller than average and also less than last year for Bulgaria, Hungary, and Rumania, while a larger harvest is indicated for Yugoslavia. Most countries, and especially Yugoslavia, report larger acreages planted to corn this year due in part to greatly reduced seedings to winter grains.

Smaller seed requirements also contributed to the increased corn plantings in some areas where seed grain was scarce. A prolonged spring and summer drought in some sections, however, especially in Rumania, has adversely affected yields. No surpluses are expected to be available this season for export as is usually the case, especially to central and western European importing countries. The Italian crop is reported to have suffered extensive damage from drought and is only a little over half the prewar average production. The short corn crop has further aggravated the food situation of that country.

Corn: Acreage, yield per acre and production in specified areas, averages 1930-34 and 1935-39, annual 1943-1945 a/

Continent and country	Acreage b/					Yield per acre		Production				
	Average		1943	1944	1945 prelim.	Average		Average		1943	1944	1945 prelim.
	1930-34	1935-39				1930-34	1935-39	1930-34	1935-39			
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
North and Central America:												
United States	103,404	92,699	94,455	97,235	92,229	22.1	25.0	2,286,584	2,315,539	3,034,354	3,228,361	3,069,055
Canada	144	172	230	270	(275)	39.1	40.8	5,637	7,010	7,775	11,700	(10,500)
Mexico	7,840	7,501	7,532	8,650	-	9.2	9.0	71,935	67,523	69,886	96,077	(75,000)
Guatemala	365	594	-	-	-	15.3	15.7	5,587	9,338	-	-	-
El Salvador	c/ 324	288	(350)	(340)	(325)	c/ 14.8	17.9	c/ 4,795	5,155	(6,500)	(5,000)	-
Honduras	d/ 408	c/ 258	325	-	-	d/ 12.0	c/ 14.4	c/ 4,908	3,717	4,785	-	-
Cuba	(250)	(360)	(400)	(400)	(300)	(32.3)	(17.9)	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,964)	(6,250)	(3,000)
Nicaragua	c/ 86	c/ 86	110	(150)	(110)	c/ 19.8	c/ 6.7	c/ 1,710	c/ 578	(2,750)	(2,200)	(2,000)
Dominican Republic	(65)	c/ 120	(150)	(200)	(200)	(18.5)	c/ 39.7	c/ 1,200	c/ 4,768	2,473	(3,500)	(4,000)
Estimated total e/	113,000	102,200	105,000	109,000	104,000	-	-	2,390,000	2,421,000	3,162,000	3,384,000	3,195,000
Europe:												
Italy	3,511	3,639	(3,300)	(3,336)	(3,459)	30.8	31.3	107,999	113,881	(75,000)	(96,383)	64,883
Spain	1,080	c/ 1,094	(927)	(960)	(1,112)	25.8	c/ 28.4	27,906	c/ 31,076	14,869	21,163	(20,000)
Portugal	982	997	1,154	-	-	15.0	12.9	14,684	12,851	14,326	-	-
France	840	837	f/ 556	f/ 494	f/ 531	23.9	26.9	20,062	22,522	f/ 7,677	f/ 8,858	f/ 7,874
Greece	611	650	-	-	-	13.3	15.5	8,096	10,078	-	-	-
Germany	8	(92)	-	-	-	-	(57.9)	-	(5,330)	-	-	-
Austria	156	(165)	-	-	-	33.9	(40.0)	5,286	(6,603)	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	342	c/ 419	-	-	-	27.3	c/ 28.2	9,334	c/ 11,807	-	-	-
Poland	233	c/ 224	-	-	-	14.4	c/ 20.2	3,349	c/ 4,535	-	-	-
Bulgaria	1,740	1,707	1,831	1,614	1,906	19.4	19.5	33,786	33,260	25,964	27,517	22,467
Hungary	2,765	2,924	)	)	)	26.4	31.5	72,943	92,006	)	)	)
Rumania	11,757	12,611	) (20,200)	) (18,000)	) (18,700)	17.4	16.8	204,530	211,890	) (470,000)	) (410,000)	) (360,000)
Yugoslavia	6,178	6,573	)	)	)	25.7	26.8	158,993	175,945	)	)	)
Albania	185	235	-	-	-	19.6	21.6	3,624	5,067	-	-	-
Estimated total e/	30,400	32,200	29,400	27,100	28,100	-	-	671,000	737,000	640,000	615,000	520,000
Soviet Union	9,390	6,920	-	-	-	16.3	19.1	153,495	131,840	-	-	-
Asia:												
Turkey	1,062	1,098	1,549	1,428	(1,642)	18.5	20.9	19,681	22,971	34,418	20,011	-
India	6,803	6,449	-	-	-	12.9	12.9	87,632	83,368	-	-	-
Burma	213	222	-	-	-	6.7	7.4	1,448	1,640	-	-	-
Indochina	628	1,019	-	-	-	20.5	20.8	12,890	21,168	-	-	-
China	c/ 11,071	c/ 12,800	(16,400)	-	-	c/ 21.9	c/ 23.5	c/ 242,809	c/ 310,000	(325,000)	-	-
Manchuria	2,599	3,720	-	-	-	25.8	23.3	65,933	86,586	-	-	-
Kwantung	243	c/ 229	-	-	-	22.0	(21.5)	5,342	(4,929)	-	-	-
Japan	115	c/ 128	-	-	-	22.5	(23.6)	2,587	(3,017)	-	-	-
Chosen	273	c/ 322	-	-	-	11.8	(13.3)	3,224	(4,177)	-	-	-
Java and Madura	4,962	5,150	-	-	-	15.4	15.5	76,386	79,976	-	-	-
Philippine Islands	1,377	1,718	-	-	-	10.8	10.0	14,918	17,097	-	-	-
Estimated total e/	29,500	32,900	33,800	-	-	-	-	535,000	636,000	690,000	-	-

Africa:												
Union of South Africa	5,854	5,909	(7,000)	-	-	10.5	13.7	61,474	60,997	86,928	(54,000)	(75,000)
Angola	822	c/ 1,427	-	-	-	12.7	c/ 9.2	10,476	c/ 13,084	15,000	-	-
Belgian Congo	636	(200)	-	-	-	c/ 21.1	(25.0)	c/ 13,420	(5,000)	-	-	-
Southern Rhodesia	258	268	257	-	-	20.7	22.1	5,338	5,923	5,714	-	-
Basutoland	d/ 250	350	-	-	-	d/ 6.3	8.1	1,564	2,822	-	-	-
Madagascar	179	264	111	198	(200)	15.1	c/ 16.6	2,710	4,189	1,575	2,559	-
Kenya	152	c/ 108	(86)	-	-	24.8	c/ 31.0	3,763	c/ 3,350	1,436	-	-
Egypt	1,881	1,599	2,025	1,962	(2,100)	36.6	39.5	63,824	63,229	54,211	61,371	(75,000)
French Morocco	848	1,112	1,507	(1,200)	(990)	7.4	7.6	6,242	8,505	(9,343)	-	(2,000)
French West Africa	c/ 1,454	c/ 1,732	-	-	-	c/ 12.1	c/ 12.4	c/ 17,662	c/ 21,473	-	-	-
Estimated total e/	17,800	18,500	20,200	-	-	-	-	242,000	260,000	255,000	-	-
South America:												
Argentina	10,944	10,775	9,144	5,232	(11,000)	31.0	28.0	339,121	301,986	343,681	116,745	(310,000)
Brazil	9,542	10,034	(10,000)	-	-	22.6	21.4	215,364	214,813	205,000	-	-
Uruguay	536	531	586	479	(550)	10.4	9.8	5,567	5,188	9,733	2,756	(5,000)
Chile	120	110	131	(125)	(125)	23.8	22.7	2,851	2,496	2,797	-	-
Colombia	c/ 1,422	c/ 1,374	-	-	-	c/ 13.5	d/ 13.9	c/ 19,200	d/ 15,276	25,594	-	-
Estimated total e/	24,400	24,500	23,300	18,500	25,200	-	-	610,000	566,000	625,000	345,000	575,000
Oceania:												
Australia	278	314	283	(300)	(325)	25.7	22.4	7,150	7,030	7,432	(6,000)	(7,500)
New Zealand	7	7	6	-	-	48.9	45.4	342	318	296	-	-
Estimated world total e/	225,000	217,000	222,000	218,000	221,000	-	-	4,609,000	4,759,000	5,450,000	5,365,000	5,275,000

Compiled from official sources and the International Institute of Agriculture, where available; otherwise Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations estimates (shown in parentheses) based on foreign service reports and other information.

a/ Years shown refer to year of harvest. Harvests of the Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1944 is combined with the Southern Hemisphere harvested early in 1945.

b/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible.

c/ Average of less than 5 years.

d/ Estimate for single year only.

e/ Estimated totals include allowances for countries not shown.

f/ Official estimates adjusted to include Alsace Lorraine.

Some increase in acreage and production of corn is indicated for the Soviet Union for 1945, as compared with the past 2 years, though the crop is estimated smaller than the 1935-1939 average. The estimates are on the basis of 1937 boundaries and made no allowance for the European areas that have been annexed. Of the areas annexed, Bessarabia and northern Bukovina normally produced around 40 million bushels of corn before the war. The European totals would be correspondingly smaller and the Soviet Union estimate larger if the crop figure for these areas was shifted.

For Asia some reduction is indicated due to smaller crops reported in Turkey and China, as compared with 1944. In Africa some net gain is expected, with larger crops estimated for Egypt and the Union of South Africa, but a considerably smaller harvest is indicated for Morocco.

While little information is available with regard to the harvest for next spring, prospective corn crops in South America may be reasonably expected to show a considerable increase over the short crops of the past season. This is particularly true for Argentina, Uruguay, and southern Brazil. Any surpluses, however, that may be available, especially from Argentina will move largely during the 1946-47 season. The small crop harvested last April-June has combined with the reduced crops in most Northern Hemisphere countries to limit marketings in 1945-46.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural prospects approved by the OFAR Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics. For this report the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, C. M. Purves, Gordon P. Boals, Judith E. Downey, Clayton Whipple, and Kathryn H. Wiley.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS, AND FEEDS

NORWAY'S GRAIN CROPS SMALLER

The 1945 grain crop in Norway is estimated to total about 200,000 short tons, or around 80 percent of average. The acreage seeded to grains was about the same as the 1944 acreage, which was placed at 478,000 acres.

The indicated reduction in yields per acre was attributed in part to dry conditions during July and August, especially in the important grain areas of southeast and southern Norway. Root crops used for feed were also badly affected by the drought and are estimated at only about 75 percent of average. Harvest of all grains was reported actively under way in early September.

AUSTRALIAN RICE CROP SMALLEST SINCE 1932

The 1945 Australian rice crop, the smallest since 1932, declined to 1,547,000 bushels (45 million pounds milled), in contrast with 3,747,000 bushels (110 million pounds) the year before. The crop is harvested principally in May. At the beginning of the season, a prolonged drought materially restricted the rice acreage allotted each grower, and poor weather during the harvesting season in some areas curtailed the output.

Most of the crop may be exported, as civilian rice consumption probably will continue to be prohibited in accordance with a decree in effect since August 1942. The 1945-46 acreage planted in October is not expected to be so large as the record acreage of 41,000 acres in 1943-44. The goal is 35,000 acres, but the actual area cannot be determined until available water supplies are assessed in October.

AUSTRALIA: Rice exports, by country of destination. July-June, 1939-40 to 1944-45 a/

Country of destination	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
United Kingdom	26	16	0	b/	0	0
New Zealand	4	3	10	4	5	2
Ceylon	0	0	0	0	35	b/
British Pacific Islands	b/	1	6	10	15	13
Other British Countries	b/	b/	2	6	16	0
Other Pacific Islands	b/	1	7	4	8	12
Country not stated	-	-	-	-	-	18
Others	2	b/	b/	1	b/	b/
Total	32	21	25	25	79	45

Compiled from official trade sources.
a/ Includes cleaned rice converted at the rate of 60.5 and uncleaned at 80 to 84 percent of rough rice. In 1944-45 for the first time, more "uncleaned" rice was exported than "cleaned." b/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

FATS AND OILS 1/

DROUGHT EXPECTED TO REDUCE CEYLON COCONUT PRODUCTION

Coconut production in Ceylon has been adversely affected by the failure of both December and May rains. As a result of dry weather, the coco-

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1/ This section is continued on page 211 nut yield is expected to decline in the last months of 1945, with a further decrease anticipated in the early months of 1946.

The entire 1945 allocation of copra and coconut oil for the United States was filled during the first 7 months of this year. Further shipments will probably not be made during the remainder of 1945. Total shipments of copra during the first 6 months of 1945 were almost three times the total for the comparable period for 1944, while coconut oil shipments were about the same as those for the first half of 1944. Exports of shredded coconuts during the first 6 months of 1945 were almost twice those of the corresponding period of last year.

On July 1, 1945, fresh coconuts were placed under export control. During the past several years large shipments of fresh coconuts have resulted in less copra being produced in Ceylon. As a result of this control shipments to India, the leading market for this commodity, were sharply reduced almost immediately.

Copra and coconut prices in Ceylon were increased on June 27, 1945, and on the same day rebates from sales to India were discontinued. The new buying price for copra is $112.50 per long ton (2240 pounds), as compared with the old price of $72.00. The revised coconut oil price is $192.00 per long ton, as compared with the previous $130.00.

HUNGARY REGULATES OILSEED CROP PRODUCTION

As a result of a decree of August 23, 1945, the Provisional National Government of Hungary has assumed the power of regulating production of industrial crops and has made oilseeds such as flaxseed, sunflower seed, soybeans, rapeseed, poppy seed, and castor beans subject to control by the Minister of Agriculture. This decree is part of a general program to insure production of essential crops during the 1945-46 season.

Production of flaxseed and sunflower seed is compulsory on farms exceeding 5 cadastral yokes (about 7 acres). Total oilseed area called for in the decree is 550,000 yokes (782,000 acres).

In the 5 years preceeding the outbreak of the war in Europe, Hungarian flaxseed production averaged 233,000 bushels, sunflower seed 61 million pounds, rapeseed 20 million, and poppy seed 13 million pounds. Soybean and castor bean production were on a small scale.

TOBACCO

SOUTH AFRICA EXPECTS LARGE TOBACCO CROP

Production of tobacco in the Union of South Africa during the 1945-46 season is expected to reach nearly 35 million pounds, or about 20 percent larger than the average production of 28.5 million pounds during the crop years 1939-40 through 1943-44. The expected outturn for 1945-46, if attained, will represent the largest since the 1940-41 crop of 38.9 million pounds and will be considerably larger than the relatively small 1944-45 production. The expected larger outturn is attributed to a desire to grow sufficient tobacco to meet the country's increasing consumption requirements and to produce a small surplus for export.

SOUTH AFRICA: Production of leaf tobacco, by crop years, 1939-40 through 1943-44, and estimate for 1945-46

Crop year	Turkish	Flue-cured	Air-cured	Total
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
1939-40	836	5,774	17,627	24,237
1940-41	329	13,080	25,539	38,948
1941-42	485	8,362	14,172	23,019
1942-43	596	9,460	14,410	24,466
1943-44	406	10,522	21,137	32,065
1945-46 a/	700	14,340	19,606	34,646

Compiled from official sources.
a/ Estimate.
Note: 1944-45 figures are not available for publication.

Minimum prices for tobacco produced in South Africa are determined by the Tobacco Control Board. These prices are adjusted periodically in accordance with the index for other agricultural commodities, labor costs and shipping charges. The leaf tobacco is sold by the producers through designated agents. Prices for 1944-45 crop flue-cured leaf averaged about 47 cents, compared with 44 cents in 1943-44, and an average of 34 cents for the period 1939-40 through 1942-43. Prices for Turkish leaf more than doubled between 1939-40 and 1944-45, and averaged 60 cents during the latter season. Prices for light-air-cured and dark-air-cured averaged 35 cents and 21 cents, respectively, in 1944-45, or nearly double those for 1939-40.

The Union of South Africa produces nearly enough tobacco to meet its domestic requirements. Some quantities of leaf, principally flue-cured from Southern Rhodesia, are imported to supplement local production. During the period 1938-1942, imports of leaf into South Africa averaged 3,110,000 pounds annually, but increased sharply to 6,359,000 pounds in 1943 and to 11,113,000 pounds in 1944. The large imports in 1944 were necessitated by the extremely small 1944-45 leaf production.

Under the Trade Agreements Act, South Africa has established flexible yearly duty-free quotas on imports of flue-cured leaf from Southern Rhodesia. The forecast increase in production in South Africa during the 1945-46 season has eliminated the necessity of establishing a duty-free quota for 1945-46. The additional supplies made available for export in Southern Rhodesia will probably be absorbed by the United Kingdom market.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBERS

EAST AFRICAN COTTON CROP LARGEST SINCE 1941

The 1944-45 cotton crop of British East Africa (Uganda, Kenya, and Tanganyika) is estimated at 258,000 bales (of 478 pounds), compared with 177,000 bales in 1943-44. This year's production is the largest since 1940-41 when a crop of 384,000 bales was reported. Nyasaland, also a part of British East Africa, usually produces 5,000 to 10,000 bales annually, but no data are available for the 1944-45 season. Cotton growers in East Africa were encouraged during the war years to divert a part of their cotton land to food crops. A shortage of labor and several years of unfavorable weather were partly responsible for the decline in production since 1941. The entire crop is usually exported.

In Uganda, the largest producing area, this year's crop was placed at 218,000 bales (of 478 pounds) from 1,137,000 acres, compared with 157,000 bales from 1,234,000 acres last year. Excellent weather conditions prevailed during most of the growing and picking seasons (November to March) resulting in higher than normal yield.

This year's crop of 35,000 bales in Tanganyika was more than double last year's crop of 14,000 bales, which in turn was exceptionally low. Indicated cotton acreage was reported to be the highest on record, but no figures were given. The 1943-44 crop was reduced by drought and heavy insect damage.

Kenya's cotton crop this year amounted to less than 5,000 bales compared with 5,300 last year. Weather conditions were unfavorable in some areas. Cotton exports from East Africa as a whole were equivalent to 199,000 bales during the year ended July 31, 1945, and included 78,000 to the United Kingdom, 120,000 to India, and 1,000 to Ceylon. Exports of 134,000 bales during the calendar 1943 included 80,000 to India, 52,000 to the United Kingdom, and 1,000 to the Union of South Africa. Exports during the first 9 months of 1944 amounted to 188,000 bales.

The British Ministry of Supply agreed to purchase at fixed minimum prices up to 56,000 bales (of 478 pounds) each season beginning with the 1943-44 crop, and the Government of India agreed to purchase the remainder. The agreement is to remain in effect for one season after the end of the war with Japan.

Prices paid to Uganda and Kenya growers by the local Government for the 1943-44 crop (seed cotton) were fixed at 13 shillings per 100 pounds (2.63 cents per pound) f.o.b. ginnery. From December 1944 to date the price was 12 shillings (2.43 cents). In Tanganyika the prices paid to growers were increased from 12 shillings (2.43 cents) for the 1943-44 crop to 14 shillings (2.83 cents) for the 1944-45 crop. Prices paid by the British Government to the Uganda Government for best quality (A. R. grade) ginned cotton during the 1944-45 season were 952.3 shillings per candy of 784 (24.56 cents per pound) f.o.b. Mombasa. Premiums and discounts were allowed for other grades.

The price paid in 1945 by the Indian Government for best quality (B. P. 52) ginned cotton was 1.62 shillings (32.76 cents) per pound c.i.f. Bombay, a reduction of about 3.5 cents (U.S.) from the price in effect prior to March 1, 1945. Net profits derived by the Uganda Government after freight and other costs are deducted are earmarked for "future benefit of the cotton industry." Uganda cotton is long staple and commands a premium over American 15/16 inch but does not rank with most Egyptian varieties.

An export tax on cotton was in effect from 1919 to 1934 by which the Uganda Government collected a total of 1.6 million pounds (about $8,000,000). This tax apparently was discontinued until early in 1944 when it was renewed on a sliding scale. In December the export tax was changed to a fixed rate of 5 East African cents (1 U. S. cent) per pound for all cotton exported. A new schedule was established on June 1, 1945, on a sliding scale ranging from 2 East African cents (.4 U. S. cent) per pound for cotton valued at 7d. to 8d. (British currency) per pound to 14 East African cents (2.8 U. S. cents) for cotton valued at 14d., or 1s. 2d. The latter rate applies to all first quality cotton.

COTTON: Price of certain foreign growths and qualities in specified markets

Market location, kind and quality	Date 1945	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound
Alexandria (spot)		Kantar			
Ashmouni, F.G.F.	9-20	99.05 lbs.	Tallaris	35.50	29.57
Giza 7, F.G.F.	9-20	99.05 lbs.	Tallaris	Not quoted	
Karnak, F.G.F.	9-20	99.05 lbs.	Tallaris	39.00	32.49
Bombay (Sept '45 futures)		Candy			
Jarila	9-21	784 lbs.	Rupee	350.00	13.45
Bombay (spot)		Candy			
Kampala, East African	9-21	784 lbs.	Rupee	850.00	32.66
Buenos Aires (spot)		Metric ton			
Type B	9-22	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	1300.00	17.56
Lima (spot)		Sp. Quintal			
Tanguis, Type 5	9-22	101.4 lbs.	Sol	103.00	15.63
Recife (spot)		Arroba			
Mata, Type 5	9-21	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	86.00	14.16
Sertao, Type 5	9-21	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	83.00	13.66
Sao Paulo (spot)		Arroba			
Sao Paulo, Type 5	9-21	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	89.50	14.73
Torreon (spot)		Sp. Quintal			
Middling, 15/16"	9-22	101.4 lbs.	Peso	84.75	17.20

Compiled from weekly cables from representatives abroad.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

BRITISH JOINT WOOL DISPOSAL PLAN APPROVED

The Governments of the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa have approved the plan for the joint disposal of the Dominion-grown stockpile wool acquired by the United Kingdom under its wartime purchase program. All wool from each Dominion owned by the United Kingdom as of July 31, 1945, and any later purchases will in the future be under the joint ownership of the United Kingdom and of the Dominion of origin. The disposal of this wool will be handled by a body called the Joint Disposals Organization.

Wool Disposal Plan: The Joint Disposals Organization will (1) determine total amounts of wool, including all new clip wool and an appropriate proportion of wool from the Organization's stock, to be offered for purchase from time to time concurrently in the Dominions and elsewhere; (2) prepare schedules of reserve prices at which the Organization will itself be willing to acquire wool; (3) lift from the market such quantities of new wool as cannot be sold to buyers at these reserve prices; (4) hold and dispose of stocks as the agent of the Governments concerned and where necessary to acquire and own warehouses, plant, and equipment for this purpose; and (5) facilitate the sale of wool in very way possible, with a view to stimulating demand.

As soon as practicable, marketing wool by auction will be resumed. Current marketing of stockpile and new clip wool by auction was not introduced immediately following July 31, 1945, since the necessary conditions of free demand and adequate organization had not been completed. The 1945-46 clip of the Dominions may, therefore, be largely taken up under the present method of appraisement and bulk purchase by the United Kingdom.

The report of the London Wool Conference, which developed the Joint Disposals Organization, recommended that auctions should be started to a limited degree in the United Kingdom and possibly elsewhere in the course of the current 1945-46 season. This course would provide the Organization, in advance of the commencement of general auctions, with practical experience in the determination of appropriate differentials between the prices of different types of wool.

The quantity of Dominion wool owned by the United Kingdom, at the end of last June, is officially estimated at 3,315 million pounds, an amount equal to more than 2 years production. Amounts by country of origin (in million of pounds) follow: Australia, 2,060; New Zealand, 540; South Africa, 645, and British 70. Only 480 million pounds of the total stocks were in the United Kingdom at the end of June 1945.

Sales from the stockpile will be made concurrently with marketings of the new clip wool. This liquidation is expected to extend over a 13-year period. Gradual disposal of wool will no doubt operate as a stabilizing influence on world wool prices. The United Kingdom and the three Dominions together produce 44 percent of the estimated total world production of wool and about 53 percent of the world's production of apparel wool.

Price Control: Minimum reserve prices, reflecting customary market differentials, will be set for different types of wool. The Joint Organization will be prepared, if necessary, to take up any unsold new clip, at the reserve prices to prevent any undue decline in auction prices. The Organization will auction wool from its own stocks in such quantities as will prevent prices from rising much above the desired level. In some instances, the Organization may make standing offers to sell from stock outside the auctions at a fixed percentage above the auction reserve prices and thus impose a ceiling on prices actually obtainable at auction.

Some extension of the selling seasons in the Dominions to dispose of old wool may be found desirable. The main selling season extends from August-September to April-May, with clearing-up sales in June. The Organization will be prepared, on short notice, to increase or hold back offerings from stock to meet changes in demand and to maintain stability of prices. In any given year, the Organization expects to be a seller of old wool and a buyer of new wool.

DANISH SOW NUMBERS SHOW UPWARD TREND

DENMARK: Hog numbers, March 25, 1944, to August 25, 1945 a/

Date	Bred Sows	Total Sows	Suckling Pigs	Boars	Pigs and Slaughter Hogs	Total Hogs
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
1944						
March 25	132	220	489	10	1,572	2,291
May 6	125	207	413	10	1,449	2,079
June 17	127	202	394	10	1,393	1,999
July 15	131	206	390	10	1,439	2,045
August 26	120	196	415	10	1,485	2,106
October 7	116	195	417	10	1,526	2,148
November 18	106	180	386	9	1,414	1,989
December 30	106	173	351	8	1,287	1,819
1945						
February 10	96	161	332	8	1,191	1,692
April 7	98	160	348	8	1,105	1,621
May 26	112	167	311	8	1,074	1,560
July 14	142	201	345	9	1,075	1,630
August 25	136	200	305	9	1,105	1,675

a/ Table accompanies text appearing on page 209 under Late News.

FATS AND OILS (CONTINUED)

PROSPECTS BRIGHT FOR CANADIAN MUSTARD AND RAPESEED CROPS

Prospects are favorable for this year's rapeseed and mustard seed crops in Western Canada. The largest commercial crop of mustard seed ever grown in Canada is now being harvested, and there was a substantial increase in the sown rapeseed acreage, according to present indications, although estimates for this year's crop have not been released as yet. Sunflower seed production, however, is expected to be much smaller than that of last year.

The Canadian Wheat Board has again been authorized to purchase rapeseed from the 1945 crop at 6 cents a pound. Discounts have been established for seed having a moisture content in excess of 10 percent and also for seed containing a mixture of mustard seed. Purchases during the 1944-45 season amounted to 3.5 million pounds, compared with less than 1 million in the previous season.

Although mustard seed is comparatively a new crop in southern Alberta, production in that Province is forecast at 4 million pounds from 20,000 acres, despite the fact that most of the acreage is in drought-stricken areas. The highest yields are about 400 pounds per acre, but many fields are producing only 100 pounds. The over-all average for the Province is expected to be slightly more than 200 pounds. Immune to sawfly attack and better able to withstand drought than some crops, commercial mustard became a favorite with many farmers when they were asked to reduce their wheat acreage this year. In the dry regions the returns per acre for mustard seed are reported to be more profitable than for wheat.

While final acreage figures for sunflower seed are not yet available, preliminary reports indicate a decrease from last year. In Manitoba, the principal producing area, the seed acreage declined from 11,300 acres in 1944 to 8,500 this year. There is also a decrease in Saskatchewan where 6,000 acres were harvested last year.

During the 1944-45 season farmers' deliveries were approximately 5 million pounds of sunflower seed, and year end stocks amounted to 5.7 million. Crushings during the year were relatively small, so that most of the 1944 crop and part of that of the previous year have not been crushed. The Wheat Board is again authorized to purchase seed from the 1945 harvest at 5 cents per pound for seed in reasonably clean condition delivered f.o.b., shipping points named by the Board. Discounts have been established for seed containing over 5 percent dockage.

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